

Comments on Estimated Production and Utilization of Grain in the USSR, 1955/56-1963/64

Estimates of grain production are calculated independently in CIA as a check against official Soviet announcements. We believe that beginning with 1958 official Soviet statistics have greatly overstated the size of the harvest. Except for 1955/56 and 1957/58, the figures for production in the attached tables are CIA estimates.

The trade data in the attached tables are based on official statistics released by the Soviet Union and other countries. The official statistics on trade are considered to be generally reliable. Because of the lack of official data it was necessary to estimate the trade for 1962/63 and 1963/64.

Very little information is released by the Soviets on their domestic utilization of grain. The estimates of domestic utilization in the attached tables should be considered only approximations rather than precise measures.

The final column (the "Residual for Feed and Reserves") in the attached tables is the total availability minus various domestic uses. Thus the "Residuals for Feed and Reserves" are probably the least accurate of the estimates in the tables.